

Listing Of Claims As Pending

Claims 1-6 (canceled)

Claim 7 (currently amended): A computerized method for auctioning products or services over a computer network, comprising the steps of:

initiating an auction in response to a request from an auctioneer computer; in response to the initiation of the auction, receiving one or more bids from each of a first plurality of bidder computers;

selecting a second plurality of bidder computers from the first plurality of bidder computers;

designating, in turn, contacting each one of the second plurality of bidder computers once as a select bidder computer based on a predefined order determined by the auctioneer computer until one of an acceptance of either a bid from one of the second plurality of bidder computers or a rejection of all bids from each of the second plurality of bidder computers occurs;

each contacting further comprising:

for each select bidder computer,

 sending one or more bids from the select bidder computer to the auctioneer computer;

 sending one or more auctioneer bids from the auctioneer computer to the select bidder computer; and

 receiving an agreement or a termination of bidding from one of the auctioneer computer or the select bidder computer.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The method of claim 7, wherein the auctioneer computer represents a seller of goods or services.

Claim 9 (previously presented): The method of claim 7, wherein the auctioneer computer represents a buyer of goods or services.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The method of claim 7, wherein the request includes product/service specifications for a product/service which an auctioneer at the auctioneer computer wishes to sell or buy, a set of alternative payment specifications acceptable to the auctioneer, a set of alternative shipment term specifications acceptable to the auctioneer; and

wherein each bid identifies one of the set of alternative payment specifications acceptable to the auctioneer, one of the set of alternative shipment specifications acceptable to the auctioneer, and a desired price for the product/service identified by the product/service specifications.

Claim 11 (currently amended): The method of claim 10, wherein the request from the auctioneer computer includes an auction specification, and wherein the method further comprises ~~the step of~~ for each of the one or more bids, verifying that the bid is from an authorized bidder computer based upon the auction specification.

Claim 12-20 (canceled)

Claim 21 (previously presented): The method of claim 7 further comprising defining a pre-qualification criteria for the first plurality of bidder computers to satisfy before being selected as one of the second plurality of bidder computers.

Claim 22 (previously presented): A computerized method for auctioning a product or a service over a computer network, the computerized method comprising:
presenting product terms or service terms associated with the product or the service by a first computer;
receiving at the first computer one or more bids related to the product or the service from one or more bidder computers;
selecting at the first computer a bid from the one or more bids; and
negotiating between the first computer and a bidder computer associated with the bid one or more terms of the product terms or the service terms.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The computerized method of claim 22 wherein selecting a bid is determined by predetermined criteria.

Claim 24 (previously presented): The computerized method of claim 22 comprising agreeing to the one or more terms.

Claim 25 (previously presented): The computerized method of claim 22 where negotiating comprises one or more firm offers and one or more firm counter offers.

Claim 26 (previously presented): The computerized method of claim 22 where the product terms or the service terms comprise product or service specifications, payment specifications, shipment terms, grade, packing specification, quality, quantity, origin, destination, payment terms, bank, currency, shipping dates, and/or auction specifications.

Claim 27 (previously presented): The computerized method of claim 22 comprising maintaining the bids not selected.

Claim 28 (previously presented): The computerized method of claim 22 comprising terminating the negotiating due to a time lapse.

Claim 29 (previously presented): The computerized method of claim 28 comprising selecting one of the one or more bids.

Claim 30 (previously presented): The computerized method of claim 28 comprising rejecting all of the one or more bids.

Claim 31 (previously presented): The computerized method of claim 30 comprising paying a fee.

Claim 32 (previously presented): A computerized method for auctioning a product or a service over a computer network, the computerized method comprising:

presenting product terms or service terms associated with the product or the service by a first computer;

receiving at the first computer one or more bids related to the product or the service from one or more bidder computers;

selecting at the first computer a first bid and a second bid from the one or more bids;

nominating at the first computer the first bid or the second bid; and

negotiating between the first computer and a first bidder computer or a second bidder computer associated with the first bid or the second bid one or more terms of the product terms or the service terms.

Claim 33 (previously presented): The computerized method of claim 32 wherein selecting a bid is determined by predetermined criteria.

Claim 34 (previously presented): The computerized method of claim 32 where the product terms or the service terms comprise product or service specifications, payment specifications, shipment terms, grade, packing specification, quality, quantity, origin, destination, payment terms, bank, currency, shipping dates, and/or auction specifications.

Claim 35 (previously presented): The computerized method of claim 32 wherein selecting a first bid and a second bid is determined by predetermined criteria.

Claim 36 (previously presented): The computerized method of claim 32 comprising agreeing to the one or more terms.

Claim 37 (previously presented): The computerized method of claim 32 where negotiating comprises one or more firm offers and one or more firm counter offers.

Claim 38 (previously presented): A computerized method for auctioning a product or a service over a computer network, the computerized method comprising: sending from a computer a bid for the product or the service to an auctioneer computer; receiving notice at the computer of selection of the bid from the auctioneer computer; and

negotiating between the computer and the auctioneer computer one or more terms of a product terms or a service terms.

Claim 39 (previously presented): The computerized method of claim 38 where the auctioneer computer represents a seller.

Claim 40 (previously presented): The computerized method of claim 38 where the auctioneer computer represents a buyer.

Claim 41 (previously presented): The computerized method of claim 38 where the product terms or the service terms comprise product or service specifications, payment specifications, shipment terms, grade, packing specification, quality, quantity, origin, destination, payment terms, bank, currency, shipping dates, and/or auction specifications.

Claim 42 (previously presented): The computerized method of claim 38 comprising agreeing to the one or more terms.

Claim 43 (previously presented): The computerized method of claim 38 where negotiating comprises one or more firm offers and one or more firm counter offers.

Claim 44 (previously presented): A computerized method for auctioning a product or a service over a computer network, the computerized method comprising:
presenting product terms or service terms associated with the product or the service by an auctioneer computer;
sending by a computer a bid for the product or the service to the auctioneer computer;
receiving at the auctioneer computer one or more bids related to the product or the service from one or more bidder computers;
selecting at the auctioneer computer a bid from the one or more bids; and
negotiating one or more terms of the product terms or the service terms between the auctioneer computer and a bidder computer associated with the selected bid.

Claim 45 (previously presented): The computerized method of claim 44 where the auctioneer computer represents a seller.

Claim 46 (previously presented): The computerized method of claim 44 where the auctioneer computer represents a buyer.

Claim 47 (previously presented): The computerized method of claim 44 where the product terms or the service terms comprise product or service specifications, payment specifications, shipment terms, grade, packing specification, quality, quantity, origin, destination, payment terms, bank, currency, shipping dates, and/or auction specifications.

Claim 48 (previously presented): The computerized method of claim 44 wherein selecting a bid is determined by predetermined criteria.

Claim 49 (previously presented): The computerized method of claim 44 comprising agreeing to the one or more terms between the auctioneer computer and the bidder computer.

Claim 50 (previously presented): The computerized method of claim 44 where negotiating comprises one or more firm offers and one or more firm counter offers.